

under 35 U.S.C. §120, either directly or indirectly, from the parent. It is respectfully submitted that that is permissible, as set forth in Section 804.02 of the M.P.E.P.:¹

A terminal disclaimer filed to obviate a double patenting rejection is effective only with respect to the application identified in the disclaimer, unless by its terms it extends to continuing applications. If an appropriate double patenting rejection of the nonstatutory type is made in two or more pending applications, an appropriate terminal disclaimer must be filed in each application. (underlining added)

Amendments to the Specification

The original "Summary of Invention" section of the specification has been replaced with a new summary section that is consistent with the new claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.73, which states that "Such summary should, when set forth, be commensurate with the invention as claimed..." The specification has also been amended by deleting a number of paragraphs in the "Background" section and by deleting the "Objects of Invention" heading and a number of paragraphs following that heading. It is respectfully submitted that none of the amendments to the specification violates the prohibition on new matter, such as described in M.P.E.P. §§ 608.04 and 2163.06.

Amendments to the Claims

As shown on the separate sheet provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), a number of claim amendments are being made.

In the event that there is any matter that the Examiner would like to discuss, she is respectfully invited to contact Ms. Lena Van Asdale of International Game Technology at (775) 448-7777 or the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Page 800-32 of the M.P.E.P., original Eighth Edition dated August 2001.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS MADE

77. (Amended) A gaming system that pays credits responsive to an outcome of a game played comprising:

- a. a plurality of gaming apparatus;
- b. an electronic memory [means for] storing an amount of credit available for play, said amount of credit being determined by an [the] outcome of at least one of said plurality of gaming [game] apparatus played;
- [c. a code reader associated with one of said plurality of gaming apparatus including for reading a unique code on a permanent storage medium;]
- c. means associated with a first of said plurality of gaming apparatus for printing a unique code on a permanent storage record representing an identification code;
- [d. a means for generating a unique code on said permanent storage record representing an identification code, said unique code capable of being read by said code reader; and]
- d. a code reader associated with a second of said plurality of gaming apparatus, said code reader being capable of reading said unique code on said permanent storage record that was printed by said printing means associated with said first of said plurality of said gaming apparatus; and
- [e. means for providing a first signal to said electronic memory means responsive to said unique code on said first permanent storage record, said electronic memory means generating a second signal representing the amount of credit for play associated with said unique code; whereby said permanent storage means generated by one of such plurality of gaming apparatus can be ready by another of said plurality of gaming apparatus and credit received for play of said other gaming apparatus.]
- e. means for providing a first signal responsive to said unique code printed on said permanent storage record causing generation of a second signal representing an amount of credit for play associated with said unique code printed on said permanent storage record;
- whereby said permanent storage record printed by said printing means associated with said first of said plurality of gaming apparatus can be read by said code reader associated with said second of said plurality of gaming apparatus and credit authorized for play of said second of said plurality of gaming apparatus.

78. (Amended) The gaming apparatus of claim 77 in which said unique code printed is in the form of a bar code and said code reader [reading means] comprises a bar code reader.

79. (Amended) The gaming apparatus of claim 77 in which said means for printing [generating] said unique [first] code is a bar code printer.